



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 26.43 Thursday, October 22, 2020

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE



At Monday's Belleville City Council meeting this scarecrow in front of Barber Bob's was announced as the Best Business entry in the scarecrow contest. It is "Groot" from Star Wars and was created by Belleville Tax and Accounting.



The best scarecrow by a Youth Organization was put together by Cub Scout Pack 793. It is standing in front of Shannon's Photography Studio on Main Street.

Independent photos by Bob Mytych



The best scarecrow by a Family/Individual is this one in front of CVS on Main Street. It was created by the Jason Newsome Family – Jason, Debi, Ella, and Donovan.



Announced as the best scarecrow by an Adult Organization was this based on the Rocky Horror Picture Show. It is in front of the Belleville-Area Independent office and was created by those at the Wayne County Fairgrounds.

Belleville asks DTE to submit plan in writing on solution to outages

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Representatives of the city of Belleville met with a DTE engineer by Zoom on Oct. 12 to talk about plans for solving the electric problems in the east side of the city.

At Monday's regular meeting of the city council via Zoom, Mayor Kerreen Conley explained that the DTE representative said 80% of the problem was related to trees that grow over the lines and fall over the lines in storms. In other communities, it's the same story, they were told.

Mayor Pro Tem Jesse Marcotte, who

was in on the meeting, said the purpose of the meeting was to find out why this was happening. He said City Manager Tracey Schultz Kobylarz asked for a full plan to solve the problem, besides tree-trimming.

They said they would start working on this immediately. Marcotte explained they were told the average liability score for DTE is 1.3 and those who rely on Haggerty substation have a liability score of 4. But for this one section of Belleville that loses power regularly, the score is 8.1. Marcotte pointed out it is 8 times their average score.

DTE said it would inform the residents of

their plans through door hangers, emails, and letter. He said DTE sounded like it was serious.

"They did not believe the service was acceptable," Marcotte said.

Councilwoman Kelly Bates said the electric lines are underground in Victoria Commons where she lives and underground wires sometimes cause problems to repair.

Councilman Ken Voigt said he doesn't go for the tree-trimming excuse.

"Since 2011, since the last time they trimmed trees in Belleville, every time a bird do-do's on a wire, power goes out on the east side," Councilman Voigt said.

Mayor Conley said the west side of the city had problems in the past and residents pushed hard to get them solved.

"It's really simple to say it's a tree problem – 80% trees," said City Manager Kobylarz. "We still haven't gotten anything in

writing. We need detailed plans concerning transformers and things that blow in the storm."

Mayor Conley said DTE indicated it would communicate with the mayor and city manager and will participate in a Zoom meeting once the city gets the plan in hand.

"They need to take some ownership in explaining it to the city," Councilwoman Bates said.

Councilman Tom Fielder said over the years many times the city would talk with the DTE district representative and then the representative would get reassigned and they'd have to start over. He said they were told there are two to four times more trees in this city.

"I'm skeptical they will deal with the issue," Councilman Fielder said.

Mayor Conley said the older portion of

(continued on page 3)

*This Space On The Front Page
 Postal Regulations Require*

Letters

Need volunteers to help on Monarch Waystation

To the editor:

Volunteers needed!

Saturday, Oct. 24, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. help is needed to winterize Monarch Waystation at Sherwood Pond in Sumpter Township.

We will be weeding, weed-wacking, raking, mulching. Bring any yard equipment you want. We need to move lots of mulch. If you have a truck we could load, that would be awesome.

Please call or e-mail with questions. Or, if during the week of Oct. 25 you are available, call me I will meet you at the gardens.

Jo Ann Gardner

(248) 390-9233

balclionjo@comcast.net

Election wisdom? Gangster in movie

To the editor and the community at large:

From: Johnny Rocco, the Gangster played by Edward G. Robinson in the 1948 movie "Key Largo", regarding elections.

I quote: "How many of those guys in office owe everything to me? I made 'em like a tailor makes a suit of clothes. I take a no-body, see? Teach him what to say, get his name in the papers. I pay his campaign expenses, give away groceries and coal, get my boys to bring out the voters and then count the votes over and over and over 'til they added up right and he was elected."

True then, and perhaps still true? Who really knows? Ask George Soros.

Ross E. Medos

Willis

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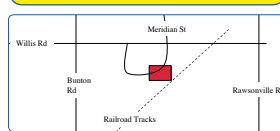
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

City Council

(continued from page 1)

the community has a matured group of trees, especially in the area with the regular power outages.

"I'd like to see us compared with Plymouth," Fielder said.

"I don't think any of us will let it drop," Mayor Conley said.

In other business at Monday's one-hour-and-three-minute meeting, the council:

- Unanimously approved a donation for gazebo repair at Victory Park and approved a proper name plate for the Belleville Area Rotary Club. "I think Rotary has done a remarkable job with the gazebo," Marcotte said. "I commend them for being willing to help us out." Mayor Conley thanked Rotary for being willing to invest a significant amount of money;

- Discussed a new festival committee. The item was put on the agenda by Councilman Fielder who said he was concerned about the procedures going forward. Mayor Conley said after the Strawberry Festival was cancelled by COVID-19, there was a break and the council gave the idea of a new festival to Councilwoman Bates. Bates said there were a couple of meetings and Van Buren Township was involved. She said they didn't want to dwell on negatives. They said in a new festival there should be no commercial vendors or carnival-type things, but there should be a focus on the lake, which would spur growth in the community. "We did not want paid committee members," she said, noting in the past paid committee members had incomes of \$40,000 and, "That's not in our best interests." Bates said the application for special events needs to be updated and it would be brought to the next council meeting. She said events could be approved three months in advance and then applicants would come back closer to the event to work out the details which would comply with pandemic rules and other things. Also, she said, there needs to be something done about large signs, such as the ones put up for the recent tent revival. Fielder said the council can't approve Winter Fest if it can't meet state requirements. "We're living in a pandemic," Bates said;

- Heard Bates say she's been alerted by residents that city workers continue to smoke in city vehicles and two to a vehicle is not social distancing. She suggested getting stickers to remind workers there is no smoking in a vehicle. Kobylarz said she had that discussion last Friday at 8:10 a.m. and everyone knows there's no smoking in city vehicles. "I'll see if I can locate some stickers," Kobylarz said;

- Was informed by Kobylarz that the Bureau of Justice Assistance has informed the city that it has been awarded \$3,600 under the Fiscal Year 2020 Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership. It's



This week's Van Buren Township Parks and Recreation Virtual Photo Challenge winner is Margaret Waggoner! Her photo was taken at Riggs Park on Oct. 13, 2020. There is still time to submit your fall images. Email photos to communications@vanburen-mi.org. Add your name and the location of where the photo was taken in the body of the email. A winner will be chosen each week until Oct. 31. For more information visit vanburen-mi.org/

a matching grant so Police Chief Dave Robinson and Kobylarz will make a budget recommendation to council in the next few weeks;

- Learned that, as of Monday, the city has issued 1,207 absentee ballots and received 634 of them back. They still need six more people to help work the election;

- Heard Kobylarz say that Marie Krouse has volunteered to retrieve several flags from city hall to give them the proper retirements they deserve. She will be working with the local VFW and boy scout troops on the effort, which Kobylarz said is "several years overdue";

- Learned Kobylarz is working with Mike Kole of the Chamber of Commerce on bringing a safe and enjoyable Winter Fest parade this year. She said they are considering alternate activities and parade routes and the safest way to bring this traditional event to the public; and

- Heard Mayor Conley say a 34th District Court meeting was set for Oct. 21 and she will report back on that.

VBT partners with Forgotten Harvest for Pop-Up Food Pantry

Van Buren Township and Forgotten Harvest have joined forces to host a Forgotten Harvest On The Go Mobile pantry distribution site to give away fresh and nutritious foods free-of-charge to area residents in need on most Tuesdays through the end of the year.

"We're really excited about the partnership," said Supervisor Kevin McNamara. "We believe the need for fresh food is greater now more than ever. It couldn't be timelier, with the holiday season around the corner."

The model for the pop-up pantry is "from truck to trunk." Residents will drive up to the distribution area, located off the Community Services entrance at Township Hall (46425 Tyler Rd.), and volunteers will load fresh groceries into the vehicle of anyone in need. No pre-registrations. No extensive forms to fill out. Just a few basic questions that help FH volunteers determine the quantity of groceries to load up.

"Anyone can use this resource for other family members and neighbors who may not have easy access to transportation," said Forgotten Harvest Director of Marketing and Communications Christopher Ivey.

Forgotten Harvest specializes in offering an assortment of fresh food and refrigerated proteins.

"We focus on a diversity of food during each distribution, which includes all the elements required for a USDA plate of food," said Ivey. "We provide items that would be found on a weekly shopping list like milk, eggs, bread, chicken, pork, and a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables."

A portion of the fruits and vegetables come directly from the 93-acre Forgotten Harvest farm located in Fenton."

Forgotten Harvest is one of the biggest non-profit food pantries in metro Detroit, working directly with 800 food distributors. A big part of Forgotten Harvest's mission is environmental. Founded as a "rescue model" to disrupt the waste of surplus food supplies going to grocery stores, Forgotten Harvest rescues 138,000 pounds of food a day and delivers the surplus to communities in metro Detroit.

The pop-up food pantry will be held weekly on Tuesdays until the New Year. Dates are: Oct. 27, Nov. 24 and Dec. 22 from 1 - 4 p.m. and Nov. 10, 17, and Dec. 1 and 8 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

(continued on page 8)

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OPINIONS

Editorial

Belleville DDA gives grants to Chamber, CBC

The Belleville Downtown Development Authority at Wednesday's meeting was scheduled to announce grants of \$2,000 each to the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce for its Winter Fest 2020 and to the Belleville Central Business Community for a year of planned events.

The DDA said before the COVID-19 shutdown, five local nonprofit organizations had requested funding. But, due to the pandemic, some events were cancelled or postponed. But the Chamber and the CBC have moved forward.

While the Chamber is working on plans for Winter Fest – "Miracle on Fourth Street" -- with fireworks and a parade already planned, the CBC has been moving right ahead with in-person and virtual events.

The CBC put on 16 weeks of the successful Farmer's Market on Monday evenings at the Fourth Street Square. The Harvest Market on Oct. 10 had a big turnout, with local vendors, food, music, and chalk drawing on the sidewalks.

The Booville Monster Mutt Walk and the Booville Halloween Costume Contests are virtual, but kids will get to have their photos taken with Santa on Dec. 12 and 19 at the Belleville Area Museum. Van Buren Township has agreed to open the museum for the Santa visits, with close attention to pandemic safety rules. And, Flop E. Bunny candy hunt is next April. Thank you, DDA and CBC.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

At last week's meeting of the Sumpter Board of Trustees, Trustee Don LaPorte reported that he called Wayne County Commissioner Al Haidous to get information on the progress of the Huron River Drive bridge repair.

He said Commissioner Haidous checked on the project and told him the work is on track and completion date is Nov. 15.

Sure would be nice if that worked out.

Trustee LaPorte also suggested people go out of their way to patronize the stores in the strip mall just west of the bridge since traffic has been very light there and business has been really low.

The detour through the Lower Huron Metropark when we're heading to Romulus is really a pleasant ride. It adds time, but the trees are turning colors, geese and deer are waiting along the roads watching us drive by at the 35 mph limit. The squirrels are just as squirrely as ever in the park, running out and then turning around and running back, maybe.

Have you noticed that family of black squirrels that lives in the neighborhood just west of the 34th District Court? We've been seeing them for years.

The Van Buren Township Planning Commission has a Zoom public hearing on a proposed Jiffy Lube on a Meijer outlot along Tyler Road east of Belleville Road. The public hearing is at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 11.

Minor Vehicle Service is a Special Land Use in the C-2 zoning district, so it requires a public hearing. Members of the public may access the agenda material via the

...By Rosemary K. Otzman



township website www.vanburen-mi.org beginning Nov. 6. They can also learn how to take part in the meeting in case they'd like to offer some comments.

The city of Belleville is leaning toward starting a new festival – Lake Fest – next June. It would be a smaller, more local event with no paid staff. It would be focused on the lake and would include Van Buren Township in the planning.

Those who worked on the Strawberry Festival said they were not informed that a committee had been meeting to put together a new festival. There are some hurt feelings. Hope it all gets worked out.

Meanwhile, the COVID-19 pandemic swirls around us, making it hard to plan anything in the future until it settles down or a shot is approved or both.

My son got home from the hospital last Friday and he is slowly mending from his multiple injuries after falling from a ladder against a tree and landing on a cement drive. He's getting around, slowly, on a walker, with one arm in a cast and resting on a shelf on one side of the walker. My son Bill and I take turns giving him a shot in the abdomen to keep his blood thinned. He gets to go on aspirins this week end.

I have been fortunate to get people to help me fill in for Jim, who does so much of the work here at the Independent.

For two weeks, Lee Herrmann drove

me around to deliver the Independents on Thursday. This week it is Paul White, who offered to help if he could. He could.

Then, of course, Jerry Leasure is doing the computer work to put the ads together and assemble the paper and send it to the printers.

Since the printer in Adrian is no longer printing newspapers, this week's edition is the last one printed in Adrian. Next week we return to Michigan Web Press in Davisburg. They are fine printers and so you probably won't notice a thing different. Sure is fun to be around here these days with everything changing.

The year 2020 will be a year that none of us will every forget. Don't want to see another one like it, ever.

During Monday's Belleville City Council Zoom meeting, Mayor Pro Tem Jesse Marcotte held up his infant son and said it was his first birthday and so they let him stay up five minutes past his bedtime.

He smiled and warmed everyone's hearts. That's one good thing about Zoom. We got to see the beautiful baby. Usually all we get to see are cats walking up and over the monitor or hear dogs barking in the background because somebody came to the door.





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Letters**We'll take candy to kids who can't trick or treat**

To the editor:

We'd like to bring Halloween to kids who aren't trick-or-treating this year because of COVID. We will take donations of candy and distribute what we receive to children who are not going out. This is specifically for children who are NOT trick-or-treating. If your kids are going out, please save this for the kids who aren't!

Depending on the response, we will cover the city of Belleville and as much of the surrounding area as possible. If you'd like to donate candy, sort and deliver, receive candy, or both, please contact:

Alan Terlep
atterlep@gmail.com
 (260) 443-1289

Remember: Vote in Nov. 3 election

Dear Editor:

I have two thoughts in this letter to the editor. The first is to thank and compliment our Sumpter Township fire and rescue departments for their quick response to help me get up after I had fallen and couldn't do it on my own. I am especially thanking those who assisted with their help. Thank you and may God bless all of you.

As I look back now, it would have been helpful for me to have Life Alert to press the button. I did not have one, so I urge our seniors to get Life Alert.

Second, I wish to thank our present Sumpter Township board for all of their hard work these past four years to keep us fiscally responsible and our auditors just completed their audit and gave us an A+ rating and that the State of Michigan will be pleased to agree. Our employees were hard at work during the entire COVID-19 crisis.

Therefore, I believe that our township board needs four more years to be able to carry future ideas to fruition.

I am glad to endorse John Morgan for Supervisor, Esther Hurst for Clerk,

Vince Warren for Treasurer (as a write-in candidate) and Matt Oddy, Don LaPorte, and Tim Rush (a Republican) for our Township Trustees.

Please remember to vote Nov. 3 in person or request an absentee ballot from our township clerk and drop it off at the township hall. Do not mail it in, as this is the most important election ever. May God bless and guide your decisions.

May God Bless America!

Mary Ban
 Sumpter Township resident

Sign petition to recall Gov. Gretchen Whitmer

To the editor:

The newly organized petition drive to recall Gov. Gretchen Whitmer will be kicked off on Thursday, Oct 23. I will have petitions for signing so please call (734) 262-6570 to schedule an appointment.

A tentative public: "Stop and Sign" is being organized for this weekend at Victory Park at Five Points in Belleville. Trump supporters are welcome and Antifa/VBLM/Democrat rabble rousers are discouraged from coming and causing trouble, so don't try to tear down the LaSalle statue, it will not be allowed.

Don't forget to vote Chapman for Library Board and write-in for VB Supervisor on the R side of the ballot. Bring your own pen if you fear CV-19.

James Chapman
 Van Buren Township
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Birthdays

Oct. 18 – Shawn Steger

Oct. 21 – Rob Goff

Oct. 22 – Megan Richendollar

Oct. 24 – Elaine Gutierrez, Allison Robertson, Debbie A. Moss

Oct. 25 – Denise Diamond

Oct. 26 – Eddie Fulton, George A. Kennedy, Mark McArthur, Joyce Phillips

Oct. 27 – Brenda McArthur

Oct. 29 – Dennis Sturtz

Oct. 30 – Tim Marsh

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More Letters

Step up, America Think, Pray, Vote

To the editor:

I am urging and encouraging EVERYONE, especially the body of Christ, to step up and stand up and vote on Nove. 3. It's crucial. Our Nation and our Constitutional Rights are at stake.

Please read both party platforms on what they stand for. Being able to vote is our duty, obligation, and God-given right. We will be held accountable on who we put in office.

And, those of you who don't vote, well... That's between you and God our Creator. Our children's and grandchildren's futures depend on it. Do you love them?

It's up to us. So, lets get to the polls.
Think - Pray - Vote.
Vote your faith.

Teresa Caudill
Van Buren Township

VBT seniors need inside space for exercising

Mr. Supervisor:

We, as seniors, need to keep healthy. We are asking for your help by giving us a space to exercise. We can clean the space we use.

We all pay taxes to live in Van Buren Township, many of us for years. We all should be treated fairly.

There is the new Harris Park and the Splash Pad. But the seniors need our space, if only a room.

We should all be working together to make this a better place for all of us. One other things: Our community is farmland. We don't want to become another Canton. A Van Buren Tax Payer

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Obituaries



Leora M. Robson

LEORA M. ROBSON

(March 21, 1924 – October 15, 2020)

Leora M. Robson, age 96, of Belleville, MI, passed away Thursday, October 15, 2020 at her home. She was born March 21, 1924 in Detroit, MI, daughter of George Alex & Norma Leora (Proctor) McLean.

She graduated from Roosevelt High School, Ypsilanti, MI and then went on to Cleary College. She was a secretary for Van Buren Public Schools in the 1970s-1980s. Lee was a devout member of Belleville First United Methodist Church, where she enjoyed singing in the Joyful Noise group and volunteering for the American Red Cross blood drives. She also volunteered at the Belleville Area Museum. She was a member and former president of the Belleville Women's Study Club, a member of September Days Senior Citizens and AARP. She enjoyed crocheting, playing piano, and was an avid card player, mostly Bridge and Euchre.

Mrs. Robson is survived by her son John (Marilyn) Wood of Canton, MI; daughter Kathryn Wood of Ypsilanti, MI; four grandchildren: Lisa (Dawn Brockett) Wood of Boise, Idaho, Mary Wood of Van Buren Township, MI, David (Annie Hester) Wood of Grand Rapids, MI and Jimmy (Chelsea VonFintel) Wood of Royal Oak, MI; one great-grandson Elliot Wood; also several nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, first husband Frank Wood in 1964, second husband Lewis Robson in 1983, two step-daughters: Patricia Kenyon and Judy Robson, also a brother Dan McLean.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the family will have a private graveside service at Tyler Street Cemetery, Van Buren Township, MI. Arrangements were by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, MI.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the First United Methodist Food Pantry or Arbor Hospice and would be appreciated. www.davidcbrownfh.com

David C. Brown Funeral Home renews pledge to abide by Golden Rule

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Joseph Benjamin "Bo" Pinter

JOSEPH BENJAMIN PINTER

(January 12, 1939 – October 15, 2020)

Joseph Benjamin "Bo" Pinter, age 81, lifelong resident of Augusta Township, MI, died Thursday, October 15, 2020, at his home. He was born in the same house, January 12, 1939, son of Joseph & Irene Pearl (Porch) Pinter, Jr. Bo was the co-owner and operator of Pinter Brothers Greenhouse. He was an avid hunter, fisherman and card player. He also enjoyed trivia, puzzles and crosswords. Most of all, he loved his family and was devoted to the greenhouse industry.

Mr. Pinter is survived by his wife of 60 years, M. Joyce Pinter; three children: Patty (Mark) Watkins of White Lake, MI, Joe (Kimberly) Pinter of Ypsilanti, MI and Pam (Arthur "Moe" Macowski) Simon of Carleton, MI; six grandchildren: Jessie (Jason), Nick, Benjamin (Ashlyn), Emily, Ashley and Travis; one great-grandson Miles; one brother Edward (Lois) Pinter of Ypsilanti, MI; also numerous extended family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents.

To honor his wishes, dignified cremation rites have been accorded. Arrangements were by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, MI. A memorial service will be planned for 2021 and will be announced.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Arbor Hospice, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital or Metropolitan Detroit Flower Growers Association (MDFGA, PO Box 1497, Belleville, MI 48112) and would be appreciated by the family.

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David C. Brown Funeral Home pledged to provide that level of service by renewing its membership in the International Order of the Golden Rule (OGR), a trade association for independently owned funeral homes throughout North America and overseas.

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Includes arrangement conference, local transportation, crematory, cremation container, website obituary and video tribute.



Obituaries



John William "JP"
Paulsen

JOHN WILLIAM PAULSEN

(September 1, 1955 – October 12, 2020)

John William "JP" Paulsen from Belleville MI passed away peacefully on Monday, October 12, 2020 after a battle with cancer. John was born on September 1, 1955 to Lewis "Jack" Paulsen and Marion C. Paulsen in Chicago, IL. John is a 1973 graduate from Belleville High School and worked for over 40 years as a heavy machinery operator for the Edward C Levy Company in Dearborn, MI.

John is survived by his father Lewis Paulsen and step-mother Margaret Paulsen; his daughter Mikki (Matt) Smith; special friend and caretaker Kim Ashley; brother Steve (Sandy) Paulsen; sisters Jeanne (Ken) Middlebrook and Karen (John) Holden; 3 granddaughters Lily, Jada, and Sophie; along with nieces and nephews, many friends, and extended family.

He is preceded in death by his son Jacob Paulsen and mother Marion Paulsen.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. Donations in John's memory can be made to Mikki Smith (thesmiths@live.com) supporting the college education of his granddaughters. "In another time, in a happier place, we'll meet again." The Anderson Funeral Homes of Escanaba & Gladstone, MI are assisting the Paulsen family and online remembrances can be shared at www.andersonfuneralhomes.net.

Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Monday, Oct. 26** – Red Cross Blood Drive, 1-6:45 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 417 Charles St., Belleville
- **Sunday, Nov. 1** – Bugles Across America is at 7:15 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial at Horizon Park in Belleville. In a brief ceremony, members of the military, alive and dead, are honored. "Taps" is played and Geof Bush and Lori Day sing the National Anthem.
- **Wednesday, Nov. 11** – Veterans' Day ceremony at 11 a.m. at the Veterans' Memorial, put on by VFW 4434 and PLAV 167.
- **Thursday, Dec. 3, to Sunday, Dec. 6** – Winter Fest put on by the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce with Friday-night fireworks, pop-up shops, crafts for kids, casino night, pancake breakfast, animal show, entertainment, Jingle Bell Run and Saturday night parade.
- **Sunday, Dec. 6** – Bugles Across America is at 7:15 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial at Horizon Park in Belleville. In a brief ceremony, members of the military, alive and dead, are honored. "Taps" is played and Geof Bush and Lori Day sing the National Anthem.

Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych



TrueWellness Pharmacy on Belleville Road celebrated its grand opening last Thursday, Oct. 15. The date given to us in a news release, was Oct. 22, which was wrong and we published it in this column. Owner Michael Sleiman says the event went very well and to remind the community they can stop in anytime and get a coupon for 20% off OTC with transferred scripts. Visit www.truewellnessrx.com and call (734) 391-8549. Watch for their display ad

You have until Monday, Nov. 2, to enter the Belleville Central Business Community's Virtual Halloween Costume Contest. Simply snap your favorite photos and email them to jfaymillard@att.net. There are six categories to enter with prizes: Infant-3 years, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12, 13 and up, and Family. After judging, notifications will be sent to the winners and info on how to pick up the prizes. Visit the Belleville Central Business Community's new website address at www.bellevillecbc.com and call (734) 558-5368 after 3:30 p.m. The event is sponsored by Belleville-Downtown on the Lake and Tucker Insurance.

The Huey Greyhound Air Adventure is so popular at Willow Run Airport that the Yankee Air Museum has added one final day of flying, Oct. 24, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at Hangar 1. The flight in this amazing, open-air helicopter is just \$99 per person. Tickets can be purchased online at www.yankeeairmuseum.org or simply walk up during the event hours. Call (734) 483-4030.

Owen Intermediate School is holding a School Thanksgiving Drive that will provide 25 families with a turkey and a \$25

gift card for Thanksgiving Dinner next month. Monetary donations as well as frozen turkeys are welcomed. Call the school office at (734) 697-8711 for details and how to donate.

The Belleville Tigers Varsity Football team continued its romp over divisional teams with a 56-0 victory at home against Livonia Franklin on Oct. 16. Belleville improved to 5-0 on the season with one game remaining before the playoffs, a contest at home tomorrow against Livonia Stevenson. In five games, the Tigers have allowed just 26 combined points. Very impressive. Go Tigers!

The winners have been announced in the City of Belleville's Annual Scarecrow Contest so be sure to check out the results and photos in today's paper. Congratulations to the winners.

Tiffany's on the River Restaurant in New Boston on Huron River Drive is holding a vendor and craft show this Saturday, Oct. 24, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. outdoors in their parking lot location. There are a few vendor openings still available. Call (734) 441-3287.

Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? Call Bob Mytych at (734) 699-9020 with your idea. There is no cost to be in this column.

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Forgotten Harvest

(continued from page 3)

Forgotten Harvest is always looking for volunteers. If you're interested in volunteering at a pop-up food pantry, contact the Supervisor's office at (734) 699-8910.

For more information about the Van Buren Township pop-up pantry visit <https://vanburen-mi.org/> or <https://www.forgottenharvest.org/>

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More Letters

Leaders shouldn't advocate herd immunity

To the editor:

RE: Mike Shirkey's callousness

Comments:

Michigan's Majority Leader in the Senate Mike Shirkey advocates herd immunity to deal with COVID-19. How ridiculous an idea from a leader who should be representing the best interests of Michiganders!

He shows a great deal of callousness for human life when he suggests this disease should be allowed to "run its course."

Shirkey tells us there isn't a need for face masks or social distancing. His "plan" for how to deal with Coronavirus-19 is irresponsible and dangerous. We need to get on with our lives he and other Republican leaders seem to be saying. Damn the consequences!

Here are a few important factors to consider as we mull over his advice. To achieve herd immunity, medical experts tell us 70%-80% of the population would need to be sickened by Covid. In 2020 there is an estimated 330 million people in the U.S. If 80% of the U.S. population needs to contract Covid, that means 264 million U.S. citizens would get this virus.

The percentage of people who have died so far is 2.7% of the people who contracted Covid. That doesn't sound too bad! Less than 3%. But let's flesh out the number OF DEATHS THAT WOULD CAUSE (remember 264 million people would get the disease). Of those people SEVEN MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED

THOUSAND (7,800,000) would die in the U.S. if we allow our leaders to talk us into accepting herd immunity as the best way to deal with this disease.

The prospect of so many deaths should raise the question in our minds -- where is the average citizen in the pecking order -- who dies and who doesn't?

Certainly, if you're the President or the Majority Leader in a state, you are expecting to get preferential care and treatment. (Remember Trump received a "compassionate dose" of experimental drugs). I'm NOT saying a leader shouldn't get excellent medical treatment, but we need to keep in mind their preferential treatment BEFORE accepting their advice.

It's easy for someone who receives advanced treatment to advise those of us who wouldn't. "We" should ignore this terrible disease and get on with our lives doesn't mean "we" as in "them AND us."

I'm not willing to give up my life, allow my husband or my sister or a grandchild to die so our Leaders can stoke our economy. If our elected leaders are willing to risk the lives of so many Americans to achieve herd immunity, they shouldn't be allowed to remain in office.

Barbara Zysk-Berman
 Sumpter Township

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Newly obtained emails from a Hunter Biden business partner lay out in detail how the Vice President's son and his colleagues used their access to the Obama-Biden administration to arrange private meetings for potential foreign clients and investors at the highest levels in the White House. These never-before-revealed emails outline how a delegation of Chinese investors and Communist Party officials managed to secure a private, off-the-books meeting with then-Vice President Joe Biden.

I don't know which is the bigger joke. Biden who will fix what he wouldn't for 48 years or supporters who think he will.



These guys don't want YOU to have all the information because they know how you'll vote if you get it.



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Photo courtesy of Brian Pearcy

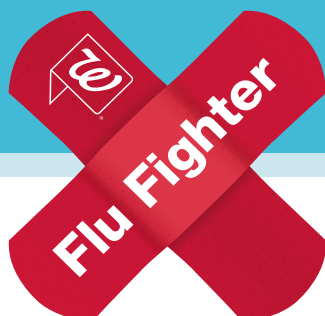
The Belleville Rotary Club and the Rotary Passport to Service Club are coordinating a water bottle drive for children attending Van Buren Public Schools in grades kindergarten through sixth. This need occurs since water fountains are not available during the pandemic. The club delivered the first group of reusable bottles on Oct. 15. From left are Rotary Club President Debra Green, VBPS Administrative Assistant Debbie McWilliams, and Superintendent Pete Kudlak. The effort continues through October. People may drop off donations of CLEAN new or used bottles at the Belleville Library.

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VB Twp. Planners recommend marijuana ordinance amendments

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

At its regular meeting Oct. 14, via Zoom, the Van Buren Township Planning Commission held a public hearing on zoning ordinance amendments and unanimously recommended to the township board rules that would keep medical marijuana growing in residential areas.

Dan Power, director of planning and economic development, explained VBT had opted out of certain marijuana land uses under 2016 and 2018 state laws.

But under a more long-standing state law, the Michigan Medical Marijuana Act (MMMA), medical marijuana caregiver activities as described in that law are permitted in the State of Michigan, including Van Buren Township.

A recent Michigan State Supreme Court decision, *DeRuiter v. Township of Byron* (2020), holds that the MMMA does not nullify a municipality's inherent authority to regulate land use under the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act.

Based on this ruling, municipalities in Michigan may limit the land use aspect of medical marijuana caregiving activities.

Recognizing this the township seeks to provide a framework for medical marijuana caregiving land use. The proposed zoning ordinance text amendments include the following components:

- It will be permitted as a home occupation and an accessory use of dwelling units;
- It will not be permitted in non-residential properties;
- One caregiver may operate per dwelling;
- Medical marijuana use by registered caregivers may occupy up to 20% of the floor area of a dwelling, not to exceed 300 square feet;
- Medical marijuana facility land uses authorized in the State of Michigan by PA 281 of 2016 remain prohibited; and
- Recreational marijuana land uses authorized in the State of Michigan by Michigan Initiated Law 1 of 2018 remain prohibited.

Township attorney David Greco was present via Zoom to explain the legal aspects of the amendments.

Greco said this is to limit medical marijuana caregiver activities and to regulate it the best they can.

In 2008 there was a voter referendum to pass the Medical Marijuana Act,

which decriminalized the use of medical marijuana. There was a medical marijuana card and a caregiver and you could grow some for yourself and up to five patients.

He said you could have five patients and yourself and grow up to 12 plants per patient. That means you could grow up to 72 plants, "Which is a lot of plants."

Greco said for the past 12 years, people in Michigan have been trying to figure out how to commercialize marijuana.

The State Legislature passed two commercial licensing acts. The township has opted out to have commercial facilities in the township.

He said the township can't regulate everyone's right for medical marijuana and this had made adjustments to policing necessary.

"You do get complaints from time to time on the smells, but not too much. But we get them," Greco said. "It's very hard to regulate what's going on with medical marijuana."

He said townships have tried to regulate this, but have lost cases.

"There's been nothing we can do," he said.

But now in the Supreme Court's *DeRuiter*

v. Township of Byron case, that changed.

He said Byron Township passed a local zoning ordinance that said if you are a medical marijuana caregiver, it is limited to a home occupation and cannot be done in a commercial building.

Greco said an issue has been that people buy a residential home and not live in it, but just grow marijuana there.

Byron Township lost in trial court and lost again in the court of appeals, he said.

"This past summer the Supreme Court found in favor of Byron Township," he said, noting that specific regulations could be made by municipalities. This issue was coming up with many municipalities.

"We took Byron Township's ordinance, upheld by the Supreme Court, and tailored it for Van Buren Township." It limits medical marijuana caregivers to residences and prohibits it from commercial buildings. He said the regulations are for the health, safety, and welfare of the township.

He said the police will be able to enforce reasonable standards, such as light, power, and smells.

"Seventy-two plants is a lot of plants and looks like a heck of a lot more marijuana than five people need," Greco said.

As part of the amendments, in Section 7.125, they are putting the opting out part into the ordinance.

Commission vice-chairman Donald Boynton asked if a person could construct a pole barn accessory building to grow on a residential lot.

Power said it is prohibited in all other areas than residential and it needs to be in an enclosed, locked facility. Power said he doesn't think the pole barn question would arise.

Commissioner Medina Atchinson said she hopes to ensure it could not be commercial at a home with a lot of traffic.

Greco said a part of the ordinance prohibits marijuana distribution at the primary residence of the caregiver.

But, as far as policing marijuana, it's going to be very hard, Greco said. "A couple of patients come over and smoke a joint together?" he said. "It's legal."

Commissioner Atchinson said if the police are asked to regulate caregivers it would be additional work for public safety.

"The way we wrote it now, no," replied Greco, explaining some municipalities have licenses or permits, which require a review and the building department, and fire and trades, and police. "This is so hard to police. We didn't go that route."

He said police would only address problems as they arise.

"There are caregivers growing now in your township," Greco said. "If they're growing in their basement, we'll never know about it."

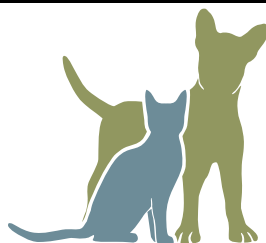
He said these amendments are not to create more work for the township.

"Patients can't come to the house?" asked Treasurer Sharry Budd, who sits on the planning commission. "That's pretty tight."

(continued on page 12)

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VOTE TO RE-ELECT KEVIN MARTIN
FOR VBT TRUSTEE
ON NOVEMBER 3RD

Endorsed by UAW Region 1A CAP Council, Metro Detroit AFL-CIO, Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council, IBEW Local 58, Iron Workers Union No. 8, State Senator Erika Geiss, State Representative Alex Garza, Wayne County Commissioner Al Haldous, VBT Supervisor Kevin McNamara, VBT Treasurer Sharry Budd and VBT Clerk Leon Wright.
U.S. Navy Veteran, 43 year GM employee and UAW member.

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Kevin Martin
P.O. Box 611, Van Buren Twp, MI 48112
electmartintrustee@yahoo.com

VBT Plan

(continued from page 11)
“Yes,” agreed Greco. “They are allowed to grow it and give it to persons, but they don’t want foot traffic.”

“A patient could bring two friends,” Budd said.

“It’s difficult to enforce,” Greco agreed. “It’s not illegal to come over to visit. Not illegal to smoke together. Not really friends just hanging out. We’ll not be able to deal with it and stop it.”

“I spoke with our director of public safety and they are in agreement with this,” Boynton said. “It gives them additional tools ... to handle what Commissioners Atchinson and Budd brought up. Gives a little bit of bite.”

Commissioner Jeff Jahr questioned whether the home occupation was in residential district only.

“We have dwellings outside of the residential district,” Jahr said, pointing to senior hoursing units.

Greco said this applies to “dwelling,” both a house or a unit. He said a facility or condo might prohibit such growing.

“I sorta feel our zoning ordinance is there to determine how land is used for a business ... not how the business should be conducted,” Jahr said. He said this kind of language should be under the township’s general ordinances. He asked why it is in zoning.

Greco said the Michigan Supreme Court held it up as zoning and the township is mirroring what it knows has been found legal. He said the township added “odor” and took out permits.

Jahr requested some edits before sending it on to the board of trustees and that was agreed to.

In other business at the one-hour-and-24-minute meeting, the commission approved temporary land use approval for Walmart Small Business Saturdays on Oct. 17, 24, 30, and 31.

Power reported two residential projects moving from one phase to the next. Victoria Park at Ecorse and Morton Taylor are adding 67 site condos. It was approved in 2006. Cobblestone Creek is entering its third phase, with 69 detached condo units. This, too, was already approved.

Also, at Willow Run Airport, Active Aero, which was approved for a project, has not yet come in for its building permits. Anglin Aviation is planning some hangar buildings. Yankee Air Museum is planning educational hangars and office space. Avflight hangars and office space are under review.

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Library parking lot expected to be asphalted this week

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At the Belleville Area District Library’s regular meeting Oct. 13, via Zoom, Building Committee Chairperson Joy Cichewicz gave a detailed report on what’s going on with construction at the new library in downtown Belleville.

Cichewicz said the curbs for the 92-unit parking lot have been poured and it’s ready to be asphalted. The asphalt is expected to be laid soon, with three inches in the parking spaces and four inches on the driving lanes.

There will be two layers of asphalt and striping. She said it is amazing that there will be 14 inches total beneath the parking surface, including the crushed stone.

She said the city will be responsible for removing snow from the alley, but the library will be responsible for removing snow from the parking lot. She said the parking lot is to be jointly used by the library and the city.

She said DTE is installing poles and switching the electrical. AT&T has been contacted to get its lines off the poles. Comcast will be the last one to get their stuff off the poles and will be responsible for taking down the poles.

Cichewicz said that could take two weeks or two months.

She said the landscaper has been at work and the bioswale is full of native plants, bee-friendly plants, and all kinds of pollinator-friendly plants.

Cichewicz gave an update on the boiler that was found to be too small because SES mechanical engineers made a mistake in their drawings after the system was downsized. An additional larger boiler was determined needed to keep the upstairs warm.

She said the estimated cost of the boiler was \$43,700. She said SES wrote a check for \$20,000, Long Mechanical gave \$11,600 which was a credit for what they were originally paid for two large boilers,

and the library paid \$12,100. That was about one-third of the cost, she said.

Cichewicz thanked board member John Juriga for pushing hard for the payments. The new boilers have been ordered, but are not here yet. They were expected to arrive in mid-October. Gas will be down for a day for the switch.

She said the fire department has given its blessing for the interior emergency response radio installed, which now is working and functional. CEI put penetration through the roof for the cable to the antenna.

The safety system being put in for the vegetative roof will make the vegetative roof accessible.

Cichewicz said the “cool” LED stuff in the teen room has had intermittent problems that are being addressed and staff is being trained in its operation.

Also, a glass display case is being installed for 3-D art and lighting is being arranged for that. Also, track lighting is being put in for the Fred C. Fischer painting.

Somebody already broke a stake on the fence, she noted.

Exterior WiFi is being put under the canopy and on the terrace, available 24/7.

Juriga said neighbors complain they can’t use the WiFi free like they used to from the old library. Library Director Mary Jo Suchy said she didn’t know if it reached out that far, but they are welcome to come to the canopy and terrace to use the service.

Cichewicz said the branch in Sumpter Township also has external Wi-Fi, 24/7.

Suchy said the Sumpter branch is now open two days a week.

Barbara Rogalle Miller, who was present by Zoom, asked if this has been announced in the paper and Suchy said she would check. She said they wanted to make sure everything was all right before advertising copiously.

Suchy gave her director’s report, beginning with news that asphalt paving of the new parking lot should begin that week.

She said the Belleville Downtown Development Authority’s Fourth Street project has begun and the street is currently closed. The library can be accessed from the alley between the museum and the library off of Roys Street.

Suchy said Expanded Grab and Go services began Sept. 15. Patrons may now browse for books and materials on the first and second floors and computers are available on the second floor by appointment. Evening hours have been added and the branch has been reopened two days a week.

Department heads are working on a staffing plan to restore the library to its regular open hours, Suchy said.

“We are among the first of libraries in our area to allow computer access as well as browsing inside the whole library,” she said. “The Canton Library began allowing limited browsing on Oct. 1,” she said. “The Ypsilanti and Romulus libraries are providing curbside service only, although Romulus is moving towards providing some limited lobby services. The Westland Library continues to offer limited lobby service, and the Wayne Library began Grab and Go service on Sept. 22.”

She said she has been closely following the Michigan Supreme Court ruling overturning state COVID executive orders. She said, in short, other laws and orders are taking the place of the executive orders, including state health department orders governing face masks and occupancy and MIOSHA rules governing employee safety.

“My concern for everyone’s health and safety is always at the forefront of my mind during our reopening phases,” Suchy said. “The library continues to honor the steps outlined in its COVID Preparedness Plan and Reopening Plan.”

Suchy announced the Friends of the Belleville Area District Library are excited to have begun a small, used-book sale in the lobby, but they are requesting no new donations at this time.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

On October 28th, 2020, the Van Buren Township Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded and abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin at 10:30am, at **J&T Towing** and Storage, 287 Industrial Dr. Belleville MI, County of Wayne, where the following will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

2010	CHEVROLET	SW	2CNALDEW6A6299062	20-11059
1978	COACHMEN	MH	CGR3290111065	20-11506
2008	FORD	SW	2FMDK48C48BA41285	20-12641
2002	FORD	SW	1FMDU75W02ZA84536	20-13761

All vehicles are sold in “as is condition.” Bidding on all impounded vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Leon Wright MMC, CMMC., Van Buren Township Clerk,
Published: On or before October 22nd, 2020

Sumpter Twp. to consider bike trails to link to neighbors

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Sumpter Township Trustee Don LaPorte suggested linking the township with neighbors Belleville and Van Buren Township by a pedestrian/bike trail.

At the Oct. 13 in-person meeting of the township board, Trustee LaPorte said he called Wayne County Commissioner Al Haidous to inquire about the Huron River Drive bridge and then they got to talking about bike trails.

LaPorte said Commissioner Haidous checked and found the bridge project is on track and is scheduled to be done Nov. 15. He said they are redecking the entire bridge with rebar included and side work is being done. There was a hope of making it like the New Boston bridge, but Haidous was unsure if the budget would allow that.

That's when LaPorte asked him about a bike trail to link Sumpter with its neighbors. LaPorte said he was thinking small, like from Willis to Hull roads to tie

them together.

But, he said Haidous talked about a grander scheme, noting the state was being connected by bike trails.

LaPorte said he will present something at the next board meeting on setting up an email site for people to get information on the project. Maybe they could link to the Huron Clinton Metroparks bike trail or use utility easements.

"It won't be taking your property," LaPorte said of the trail.

"It would have to be a community project and it probably would increase property values around it," he said, noting people he's talked to about it are for it. Some are concerned that mopeds might end up running down it.

LaPorte said the board has spent so much time defending itself from accusations that it has taken away from the community projects it started, like first aid classes for the community. He said COVID-19 put a stall on everything.

"We need to start doing more for the community," LaPorte said. "I'm happy to get more information and bring it back," he said of the trails.

In other action at the 41-minute meeting on Oct. 13, the board

- Approved the resignation of Laura Bratby from the fire department because her commitments won't allow her to make runs as required;

- Removed from the agenda without comment approval of the employment of Dale Kendrick for the fire department with the understanding that he passes a physical exam;

- Approved employment of James Beaumont and Jacob Kosikowski as fire fighters, pending outcomes of physical exams;

- Approved the 2021 Municipal and Community Credit contract of \$9,386 and the CARES Act Funding contract of \$7,410 for Sumpter, for reimbursements to the senior coordinator to stay in compliance

with COVID-19 requirements;

- Approved a COVID stipend not to exceed \$100 per election worker on the Aug. 4 and Nov. 3 elections to reward their efforts and to support successful staffing of township precincts;

- Approved Christopher Brinkmeyer as Building Official and Gerald LeBlanc, Jr., as an alternate Building/Plan Reviewer;

- Approved a letter of understanding to modify the Michigan Association of Fire Fighters contract to include that physicals are regularly taken for safety purposes, contingent on fire department approval;

- Heard attorney Rob Young say he is still working on getting the source of the information in a letter to the editor from Jim Clark;

- Heard Mary Ban ask if the board could work with the senior coordinator to get the annual senior craft fair reinstated. She said the craft fair brings a community atmosphere and is something people really

(continued on page 15)

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RE-ELECT

JOY CICHEWICZ

ALMA HUGHES-GRUBBS

JOHN JURIGA

TO THE LIBRARY BOARD

Joy, Alma, and John have been Trustees of the District Library for a number of years. All of them have shown sincere dedication to ensure that the new building downtown and the Media Center in Sumpter Township were constructed as state-of-the-art buildings and were built and renovated within budget.

The Media Center and the Library downtown enhance the community and provide the residents places they can use, enjoy, and be proud of.

As Trustees for the library, they have been conscientious and frugal with the taxpayers' money during the construction of the Library and the Media Center.

VOTE ON

NOVEMBER 3rd



Joy Cichewicz



John Juriga



Alma Hughes-Grubbs



They will continue to be an asset not only to the Library Board, but to the entire Tri-Community as well.

Paid for by: Committee to Elect Elizabeth Joy Cichewicz, John Juriga for BADLB, CTE Alma J Hughes-Grubbs, 327 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111

INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION

NOTICE is hereby given that on November 7, 2020 at 12:00 P.M. Full House Self Storage at 7886 Belleville Rd., Belleville, MI. 48111 is holding a public auction. Unit(s) may or may not include the following: Household items, recreational items, appliances, furniture, misc.

S954, Frederick Bollman; I425, Belleville Cougars; E218 & E210, Michael Conn; I421, Timothy Thompson; P759, James Diamond; Q910, Delroy Blanton; O723, Marilyn K. Owens; F275, David Polocoser.

Publish: October 22, 2020; October 29, 2020

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DESK with 3 side & 1 front drawer, \$50. **Lodge cast iron 5 quart Dutch oven**, \$50. (734) 487-4135. 10/29

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More Letters

Every student should be free to learn, grow

To the editor:

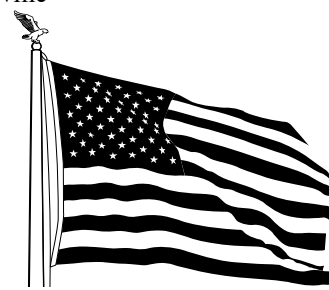
Every student deserves a quality education without fear. Sadly, my daughter didn't find that in any of the four schools she tried by the time she reached middle school. The bullying wouldn't stop, and she struggled to focus.

With every school transfer, I hoped things would improve and school staff would address these issues in their classrooms. I watched my daughter's love for learning decline because of the environment she was in. That's why I made the decision to search for an alternative, something I found with an online school.

Now that she's enrolled at Highpoint Virtual Academy of Michigan, my daughter is excelling in her classes. The teachers and staff are the biggest support system she has, and her classmates have become close friends. She knows that if she needs any help, she can contact a teacher and they will be willing to help in whatever capacity necessary. As a parent, I feel involved in my child's education and I feel equipped to support her. Most importantly, I know that she has a safe environment where she can focus on her classes.

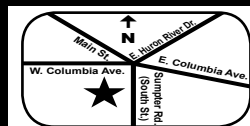
Bullying is something we need to address, especially when it comes to our schools. October is National Bullying Prevention month, and I want to encourage parents to talk to their students. If your child is in an environment that harms their education, seek alternatives. Everyone should have a school where they are free to learn and grow.

Deborah Isenegger
Belleville



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Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN **PLANNING COMMISSION** **REMOTE PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, November 11th at 7:30 p.m.** Pending the enactment of legislation which allows for remote public meetings, this meeting will take place electronically due to health concerns associated with COVID-19. Alternatively, if the meeting is to occur in person at the on-site location of 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI, 48111, advance notice will be provided via mail. The Planning Commission will consider the following request:

Case #20-012- A request applicant Jiffy Lube International, Inc. on behalf of owner Meijer, Inc. to construct a Minor Vehicle Service use along with related site improvements . The proposed +/- 3,064 square foot, single-story building is located on the south side of Tyler Road east of Belleville Road on a proposed +/- 0.71 outparcel to be divided and created from portions of the 39.4-acre parcel at 9701 Belleville Road (83 058 99 0006 705) and a vacant 1.33-acre parcel (83 058 99 0006 707). The property is zoned C-2 – Extensive Highway Business District and also in the Belleville Road Overlay District (BROD).

Minor vehicle service developments are a Special Land Use in the C-2 District. The proposed Special Land Use requires a public hearing. This hearing is being held in accordance with Article 12, Chapter 3 of the Zoning Ordinance (Administrative Procedures - Special Land Use Review).

Members of the public may access the agenda materials via the Township website – www.vanburen-mi.org beginning **November 6, 2020**. On this website, members of the public will also gain access to **means of participating in the electronic meeting**, including a unique Zoom weblink and dial-in phone number with a meeting ID for meeting videoconference or teleconference access. The meeting will be available to view live on the Van Buren Township YouTube Channel which can be reached from the live meeting link located on the Van Buren Township website home page (www.vanburen-mi.org). Closed captioning will be available after YouTube fully renders meeting video.

A complete **procedure for public comment by electronic means** is provided on a guide which is accessible on the Van Buren Township website (www.vanburen-mi.org). Participants may also choose to submit written comments that will be read into record during public comment by the Chairperson. Submit any written comments via e-mail to dpower@vanburen-mi.org by **Noon, Tuesday, November 10, 2020**, which is the day before the meeting. Members of the public may also contact dpower@vanburen-mi.org to be connected with members of the Planning Commission prior to the meeting by e-mail.

To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), any citizen requesting accommodation to attend a meeting, and/or to obtain this notice in alternate formats, please contact the Clerk's Office at 734.699.8900 extension 9205.

Posted: 10/16/2020

Published: 10/22/2020

Sumpter Twp.

(continued from page 13)

enjoy; and

• Heard a two-year resident of Sumpter, an airline pilot, tell of the problems he is having with his neighbor over lot lines. He said he had a \$1,200 survey done and the pins and posts are in place. He said the neighbors play loud music, are screaming and calling him and his wife names and police were called six times. He said he is told the ordinance requires fences to be on the lot line, but with a PVC fence that would intrude into the adjoining lot. He was planning to put up a welded wire fence on the property line and then a PVC fence next to it and the ordinance officer said that is perfectly fine. Board members said they would look into the situation.

More Letters

Vote to keep a free America, Vote Trump

Dear Neighbors, Friends and Church Family:

Our nation is growing further and further away from our God. Each of us should look closely and examine our attitudes. Are we guilty of complacency, of cowardice, or just plain lazy, not even voting, or hoping and wishing all is well?

Look and listen to the deafening, drumming sound of Socialism / communism. That sound is an awakening alarm and it's saying - America, you are being tested today as never before in history!

Americans are watching daily those who are bent on overthrowing our democracy while instilling hate for America! Killing, burning, looting, destruction of homes, businesses and historic monuments --terrorists at work!

Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness as we have known, loved, and enjoyed for centuries is in real danger. We are being tested because we ARE the freest nation on earth. Simply put: America is under attack!

Do we need another 911 to awaken us? I'll never forget those courageous passengers who sacrificed their lives while overpowering the terrorists and thus preventing further, more-horrendous massacre.

Their cry was then, and our cry now should be -- "LET'S ROLL." Anything less will mean those true patriots died in vain! We Americans cannot and must not -- never again -- take our freedoms for granted.

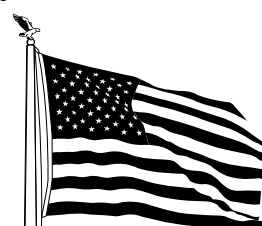
Most assuredly, the stakes are very high in this election on Nov. 3 -- our choice is: Citizenship in a free Democracy -- or -- a government-controlled, Socialist citizenship. We must consider our children -- the next generation and beyond -- our great grandchildren! Which America will they inherit?

It's true: If we don't learn from our history, we will be certain to repeat it. We Americans need to vote intelligently; A vote for Trump assures us a vote for America! A vote for Biden will assure us a vote for China!

Your vote will count if you carry your ballot to the polls or vote in person. Your vote may not count if you put your trust in total honesty -- no fraud!

God Bless America. Vote to keep a free America. Vote for Trump.

(Mrs.) Ruth E. Bleeker
 Belleville



Trinity Episcopal Church sets annual 'Blessing of the Pets'

Attention all pet lovers!
Trinity Episcopal Church on Belleville Road will host its annual Blessing of the Pets in honor of St. Francis of Assisi at 5:30 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 24.

This outdoor and socially distant event is a way to celebrate the work and legacy of St. Francis of Assisi, who was canonized in 1228 for his tireless work to protect and defend the vulnerable. St. Francis is especially known for his kindness to and respect for all animals.

Members of the public are invited to join those at Trinity with their furry, feathered, or scaly family members. For their safety, pets need to be on a leash or in a cage. Human attendees need masks.

"This is a wonderful way to celebrate the contributions our beloved pets make to our lives," said Trinity Priest Alice Sherman Sawyer. "Follow the happy sounds of barking out to the rear parking lot at Trinity Episcopal Church, 11575 Belleville Rd., Van Buren Township. Treats for the pets will be provided!"



"Hope" is the Rev. Alice Sherman Sawyer's new rescue puppy.

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The *Belleville-Area Independent* will not be liable for failure to publish an ad as requested or for more than one incorrect insertion of an advertisement. In the event of any error or omission in printing or publication of an advertisement, you must notify us within five days of publication or on the date of insertion, if an ad is scheduled as part of a package, so there is time to correct subsequent publications. The *Independent's* liability shall be limited to an adjustment for the cost of the space occupied by the error with a maximum liability being cancellation of the cost of the first incorrect advertisement or republication of the corrected advertisement. Under no circumstances shall the *Independent* be liable for consequential damages of any kind.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



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Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN-VAN BUREN SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE OF THE GENERAL ELECTION-TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2020

In accordance with Michigan Election Law, Act 116 of 1954 Section 168.653 (a), notice is hereby given to the registered voters of the Charter Township of Van Buren that the General Election will be held TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2020.

Polls are open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. EST. Polling place locations for Van Buren Township:

Precinct #1	McBride Middle School	47097 McBride
Precinct #2	Wayne County Community College	9555 Haggerty Rd.
Precinct #3	Van Buren Township Hall	46425 Tyler Rd.
Precinct #4	Van Buren Township Hall	46425 Tyler Rd.
Precinct #5	Tyler Elementary School	42299 Tyler Rd.
Precinct #6	Belleville High	501 W. Columbia
Precinct #7	Belleville High	501 W. Columbia
Precinct #8	Haggerty Elementary School	13770 Haggerty Rd
Precinct #9	Savage Elementary School	42975 Savage Rd
Precinct #10	Owen Intermediate School	45201 Owen St.

All polling place are handicap accessible. To obtain election instructions in an alternative format (audio or Braille), contact the Clerk's Office prior to Election Day.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the residents in the Charter Township of Van Buren, Wayne County Michigan will be voting on the following as presented and listed below:

UNITED STATES: PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SENATOR, REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS 12TH DISTRICT, REPRESENTATIVE IN STATE LEGISLATURE 12TH DISTRICT, REPRESENTATIVE IN STATE LEGISLATURE 21ST DISTRICT.

STATE BOARDS: MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, REGENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, TRUSTEE OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, GOVERNOR OF WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY.

COUNTY: PROSECUTING ATTORNEY, SHERIFF, CLERK, TREASURER, REGISTER OF DEEDS, COUNTY COMMISSIONER 11TH DISTRICT.

TOWNSHIP: SUPERVISOR, CLERK, TREASURER, TRUSTEE

JUDICIAL: JUSTICE OF SUPREME COURT, JUDGE OF COURT OF APPEALS 1ST DISTRICT INCUMBENT POSITION, JUDGE OF CIRCUIT COURT 3RD CIRCUIT INCUMBENT POSITION, JUDGE OF CIRCUIT COURT 3RD CIRCUIT NON-INCUMBENT POSITION, JUDGE OF CIRCUIT COURT 3RD CIRCUIT INCUMBENT POSITION PARTIAL TERM ENDING 01/01/2023, JUDGE OF PROBATE COURT INCUMBENT POSITION, JUDGE OF DISTRICT COURT 34TH DISTRICT INCUMBENT POSITION.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE: BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBER WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE 9TH DISTRICT.

LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT: BOARD MEMBER VAN BUREN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT.

DISTRICT LIBRARY: BOARD MEMBER BELLEVILLE AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY.

(continued on page 17)

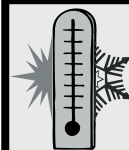


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Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

(continued from page 16)

STATE PROPOSAL 20-1 A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO ALLOW MONEY FROM OIL AND GAS MINING ON STATE-OWNED LANDS TO CONTINUE TO BE COLLECTED IN STATE FUNDS FOR LAND PROTECTION AND CREATION AND MAINTENANCE OF PARKS, NATURE AREAS, AND PUBLIC RECREATION FACILITIES; AND TO DESCRIBE HOW MONEY IN THOSE STATE FUNDS CAN BE SPENT.

STATE PROPOSAL 20-0 A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO REQUIRE A SEARCH WARRANT IN ORDER TO ACCESS A PERSON'S ELECTRONIC DATA OR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS.

TOWNSHIP PROPOSAL- A MILLAGE RENEWAL WHICH EXPIRES DECEMBER 2023 IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED 6.3932 MILLS TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES FOR A PERIOD OF SEVEN YEARS BEGINNING DECEMBER 31, 2024 THROUGH DECEMBER 2024.

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT: REGIONAL ENHANCEMENT MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL. RENEWAL OF AUTHORITY WHICH EXPIRES WITH THE 2021 LEVY ON TAXABLE PROPERTY IN THE WAYNE COUNTY REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY, MICHIGAN BE INCREASED BY 2 MILS FOR A PERIOD OF SIX YEARS, 2022 TO 2027 TO PROVIDE OPERATING FUNDS TO ENHANCE OTHER STATE AND LOCAL FUNDING FOR LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OPERATING PURPOSES.

Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the Van Buren Township Clerk's office located at 46425 Tyler Rd, Van Buren Township, Michigan 48111, by contacting the Clerk's office at 734-699-8909 or by visiting the Township website at www.vanburen-mi.org where a sample of the ballot may be viewed.

To comply with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), voting instructions will be available in audio format and in Braille. Arrangements for obtaining the instructions in these alternative formats' can be made by contacting the Township Clerk in advance of the election. All polling locations are accessible for voters with disabilities.

Published: October 22, 2020

Court Watching:

Steven Abdo waives exam, bound over to circuit court

By Rosemary K. Otzman
 Independent Editor

On Oct. 14 at 34th District Court, Steven Frank Abdo, 37, of Romulus waived his preliminary exam on a charge of assaulting/resisting/obstructing a police officer on Sept. 3 in Van Buren Township.

Judge Tina Brooks Green said his arraignment on the information is set for Oct. 28 at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice. He is free on \$5,000 personal bond. His defense attorney is Robert Burton-Harris of the Neighborhood Defense Service.

A pretrial by Zoom has been set for 10:30 a.m. Oct. 22 at 34th District Court on a separate charge of driving with open intoxicant.

Susan Kathleen Dodge-Doak

The probable cause conference for Susan Kathleen Dodge-Doak, 48, of Plymouth was adjourned until Oct. 28.

She is charged with criminal sexual conduct first degree (person under 13) from 2001-2017 in Van Buren Township.

Her attorney Shawn Patrick Smith said an expert is expensive to examine his client and will the court pay for it? Or, does he have to seek it through circuit court?

Judge Green said the district court got stuck last year with a \$7,000 bill for an exam. She suggested he seek it through circuit court.

Dodge-Doak is free on \$5,000 personal bond. Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor is Ragan Lake.

Quann Alexander Patterson

Quann Alexander Patterson, 33, of Ypsilanti had his probable cause conference adjourned to Nov. 4. His defense attorney Stephanie Farkas of the Neighborhood Defense Service said she still needs discovery.

Patterson is charged with weapon possession by a felon, felony firearm, carrying a concealed weapon, and operating while intoxicated – 2nd in Van Buren Township on Sept. 26.

Daniel Preston Hopkins

Daniel Preston Hopkins, 36, of Westland had his probable cause conference adjourned for a week, until Oct. 21. His attorney William Glenn said he's been asking for discovery for two months. Prosecutor John Trummer was not there. The co-defendant in the case has a Dec. 2 exam set.

Judge Green said Trummer has to be at the court next week and will deal with his discovery issue. Trummer later said his office sent the discovery and Judge Green said to send it again.

Hopkins is charged with assault with intent to murder, assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder, and assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault) on July 31 in Van Buren Township.

Bond originally was set at \$100,000 cash or surety, but later reduced to \$10,000/10% and he bonded out. He is required to wear a GPS tether.

Julia Deann Maull-Kennedy

Julia Deann Maull-Kennedy, 30, of Roseville had her probable cause conference adjourned for one week, to Oct. 21, because her defense attorney, Cait DeMott Grady, needed discovery.

Maull-Kennedy is charged with two counts of possession of controlled substance – analogues and one count of possession of marijuana on July 15, 2016 in Belleville. She is free after posting a \$10,000 surety bond. Her attorney is Cait DeMott Grady.

Ronald Joseph Webb

Ronald Joseph Webb, 56, of Van Buren Township, had his probable cause conference adjourned until Nov. 4 because his attorney, Robert Burton Harris said he didn't have the video discovery for the case.

Webb is charged with home invasion first degree and assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder on July 10 in Van Buren Township. He is free on \$10,000 personal bond.

Teresa Renee Lewis

Teresa Renee Lewis, 52, of Ypsilanti had her probable cause conference adjourned until No. 4. Her defense attorney Hugh Marshall said he is missing discovery. Prosecutor Lori Mireles-Smith said she is sending it now.

Lewis is charged with carrying a concealed weapon on Aug. 3 in Van Buren Township.

David Osmond Brown

David Osmond Brown, 52, of Sumpter Township had his probable cause conference adjourned until Nov. 4.

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 392 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police for last week, including the following.

Sunday, Oct. 11:

0028 – animal complaint, Elwell Rd./Hull Rd.
0142 – noise complaint, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1027 – parking complaint, Jackson Ln.
1125 – suspicious person/vehicle, Quirk Rd.
1152 – malicious destruction of property, Robson
1200 – motorist assist, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1248 – personal injury accident, Belleville / Walgreen’s
1445 – disorderly, Fret Rd.
1457 – animal complaint, Debuck
1511 – fight, Martz Rd.
1541 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1620 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1637 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
1726 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
1813 – traffic offense, Hoeft Rd./W. Huron River
2050 – suicidal person, Kirkridge Park Dr.
2156 – disorderly, S. I-94 Service Dr.

Monday, Oct. 12:

0058 – assist other dept., Parkside Dr.
0629 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
0839 – suspicious person/vehicle, Van Buren St.
1152 – domestic, Maurice Dr.
1157 – trespassing, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1217 – larceny, Stamford Rd.
1230 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Cobblestone Creek Dr./W. Huron River Dr.
1237 – disorderly, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1333 – noise complaint, Pine Dr.
1352 – mental subject, Victoria St.
1442 – property damage accident, Southport Apts.
1536 – ordinance violation, Bog Rd./Republic Dr.
1655 – missing person, Oak Blvd.
1720 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd. / E. I-94
1824 – harassment call, S. Purple Sage Ct.
1927 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1929 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Belleville Rd.
1938 – traffic offense, Bog Rd./Rawsonville Rd.
1949 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2027 – 911 welfare check, Haggerty Rd.
2110 – road hazard, Ecorse Rd./Beck Rd.
2117 – shooting, Oak Ln.
2211 – shooting, S. Bellridge Dr.

Tuesday, Oct. 13:

0003 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
0517 – animal complain, Sylvia Dr./Rawsonville
0650 – assist other dept., Main/Third
0858 – property damage accident, Hannan Rd. / Van Born Rd.
1105 – animal complaint, Bog Rd.
1109 – malicious destruction of property, Bog Rd.
1143 – private property impound, Van Born
1152 – 911 welfare check, Ecorse Rd.
1155 – private property impound, Huron River Dr.
1309 – suspicious person/vehicle, Rawsonville Rd.
1447 – neighbor trouble, Bayshore Dr.
1458 – property damage accident, Haggerty/Ecorse
1534 – animal complaint, Haggerty/N. I-94 Service
1540 – traffic offense, E. Huron River Dr.
1819 – suspicious person/vehicle, Bradley/Daniel
2124 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Haggerty

Wednesday, Oct. 14:

0002 – noise complaint, Haggerty Rd.
0017 – 911 welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0252 – suspicious person/vehicle, Parkwood Dr.
0415 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service
0920 – domestic, S. Bellridge Dr.
0939 – parking complaint, Sonrisa St.
0937 – disorderly, Ecorse/I-275
1006 – 911 welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1158 – domestic, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1311 – malicious destruction of property, Robson
1335 – suspicious person/vehicle, Daniel/Bradley
1526 – suspicious person/vehicle, Ormond Dr./W. Huron River Dr.
1531 – malicious destruction of property, Belleville Rd.
1539 – property damage accident, Belleville/Quirk
1555 – suspicious person/vehicle, Bemis Rd.
1635 – domestic, Locust Dr.
1832 – suicidal person, North Shore Dr.
2022 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.

2229 – animal complaint, Oak Ln.
2232 – threat, S. Bellridge Dr.
2301 – domestic, N. I-94 Service Dr./Oak Ln.
2315 – domestic, McBride Ave.

Thursday, Oct. 15:

0556 – suspicious person/vehicle, Sunrise Ln.
0851 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0914 – suspicious person/vehicle, Hampton Dr.
0943 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
0959 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service
1006 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1038 – fraud, Elwell Rd.
1219 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1218 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1350 – unauthorized driving away of auto, E. Archwood Dr.
1417 – suspicious person/vehicle, Winding Pond
1422 – animal complaint, Hull Rd.
1431 – suspicious person/vehicle, Wildrye Ct.
1453 – suspicious person/vehicle, Ventura Dr.
1503 – private property/property damage accident, Lake Villa Dr.

1505 – assist other dept., Hamilton St.
1511 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Haggerty Rd.
1518 – suspicious person/vehicle, W. Adams
1536 – prison transport, Ypsi City
1822 – domestic, Western St.
2009 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
2127 – suspicious person/vehicle, Ecorse Rd.

Friday, Oct. 16:

0254 – assist other dept., Wildbrook Dr.
1107 – domestic, Belleville Rd.
1221 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1333 – property damage accident, Hull/Sumpter
1406 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1528 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1754 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.
1755 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Harmony Ln.
1800 – juvenile complaint, Parkwood Dr.
1802 – malicious destruction of property, Lighthouse Dr.

1812 – animal complaint, Harmony Ln.
1927 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service
1948 – threat, Belleville Rd.
2056 – suspicious person/vehicle, Hull Rd.
2224 – shooting, Parkwood
2327 – noise complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.

Saturday, Oct. 17:

0032 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0114 – motorist assist, Ecorse Rd./Sheldon Rd.
0554 – suspicious person/vehicle, Anna Dr.
0808 – domestic, Village Green Ln.
0956 – 911 welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1132 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr. / Belleville Rd.
1237 – 911 welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1258 – 911 welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1606 – assist other dept., Beckley Rd.
1652 – assault & battery, Kennedy Ct.
1745 – domestic, Rawsonville Rd.
2005 – road hazard, Brookview Dr./Belleville Rd.
2014 – 911 welfare check, Parkwood Dr.
2042 – fireworks, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2053 – 911 welfare check, W. Archwood Dr.
2127 – assist other dept., S. Ponderosa Trl.
2219 – domestic, Hamilton St.
2248 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
2332 – family trouble, Outer Dr.

Also on this week’s log are 195 traffic stops, 122 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Oct. 11:

0830 – intrusion alarm, Sumpter Rd.
1344 – follow-up by officer, Roland St.
1916 – suspicious person/vehicle, W. Columbia
Monday, Oct. 12:
0035 – noise complaint, Carmell St.
1244 – animal complaint, Belle Villa Blvd.
1551 – harassment call, Light Tower Ct.

Tuesday, Oct. 13:

0643 – traffic offense, Main St./Third St.
2218 – assist citizen, Belleville Rd./Denton Rd.

Wednesday, Oct. 14:

0741 – intrusion alarm, Anaheim St.
1320 – trespassing, Martinsville Rd.

1736 – property damage accident, Main/Denton
1807 – motorist assist, Main St./Denton St.
2149 – suicidal person, Henry St.

Thursday, Oct. 15:

1200 – larceny, South St./E. Davis St.
1250 – harassment call, Light Tower Ct.
1530 – suspicious person/vehicle, W. Columbia Ave. / Church St.
1705 – suspicious person/vehicle, Potter Dr.

Friday, Oct. 16:

0952 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1131 – traffic offense, Main St.
1615 – larceny, Bedell St.
1850 – suspicious person/vehicle, Sumpter Rd.
2102 – suspicious person/vehicle, Hull Rd.
2102 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. Aberdeen Ct.
2233 – assist other dept., E. Huron River Dr.

Saturday, Oct. 17:

1305 – found property/child, MUESUME
1925 – welfare check, Loza Ln.
2140 – welfare check, Main St.

Also on this week’s log are 55 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Oct. 11:

0041 – noise complaint, Knollwood Dr.
0233 – noise complaint, Edgewood Dr.
0301 – mental health call, 25000 bl. Clark Rd.
0326 – suspicious circumstances, 24000 bl. Elwell
0354 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Martha’s Dr.
0512 – suspicious vehicle, Elwell Rd./Willow Rd.
1126 – suspicious person, California/Delaware
1141 – civil matter, Rustic Ln.
1415 – welfare check, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
1436 – animal complaint, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.
1613 – disorderly person, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.
1636 – harassment complaint, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
2112 – civil matter, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
2305 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Bohn Rd.

Monday, Oct. 12:

0734 – civil matter, Rustic Ln.
0910 – fire dept. assist, Carriage Ln.
1040 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1315 – property damage accident, Martinsville Rd. / Wear Rd.

1733 – civil matter, 21000 bl. Fenster Ave.
1810 – follow-up investigation, 22000 bl. Sumpter
2001 – suspicious circumstances, 50000 bl. Bemis
2029 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
2051 – animal complaint, Rawsonville/tracks
2154 – family trouble, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
2307 – 911 hang up, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.

Tuesday, Oct. 13:

0017 – traffic complaint, Judd Rd./Haggerty Rd.
0038 – family trouble, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
0723 – fire dept. assist, Creekside Dr.
0841 – fire dept. assist, 20000 bl. Crandell Ct.
1032 – suspicious person, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1047 – follow-up investigation, 43000 bl. Arkona
1102 – 911 hang up, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.
1153 – 911 hang up, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.
1316 – alarm, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1730 – civil matter, 47000 bl. Willis Rd.
1827 – 911 hang up, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Wednesday, Oct. 14:

0216 – suspicious vehicle, 25000 bl. Martinsville
1236 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter
1242 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1257 – neighborhood trouble, 22000 bl. Sherwood
1351 – suspicious person, Rustic Ln./Carriage Ln.
1729 – personal injury accident, Sumpter/Willis
2112 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
2141 – operating while intoxicated arrest, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

Thursday, Oct. 15:

0713 – noise complaint, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.
0808 – citizen assist, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0935 – animal complaint, 29000 bl. Karr Rd.
1122 – animal complaint, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.
1935 – suspicious circumstances, Creekside Dr.
2025 – 911 hang up, Rustic Ln.
2200 – traffic complaint, Rawsonville/Bemis

Friday, Oct. 16:

0821 – death investigation, California St.
1550 – alarm, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1908 – 911 hang up, Wayside Dr.
1925 – suspicious circumstances, Hampshire
1939 – 911 hang up, 47000 bl. Willow Rd.
2308 – suspicious vehicle, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2326 – citizen assist, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Saturday, Oct. 17:

0947 – fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Judd Rd.
1433 – welfare check, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1445 – personal injury accident, Willis/Lohr
1723 – welfare check, Clark Rd./Savage Rd.
1754 – damage to property, Rustic Ln.
2022 – mental health call, Greenmeadow Dr.
2045 – juvenile complaint, 28000 bl. Martinsville
Also, on this week’s log are 45 patrol checks, 18 traffic stops, and 13 misc. details.

VBT PD partners with DEA for Prescription Take-Back Day

Van Buren Township Police and the Drug Enforcement Administration is partnering up for the National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 24.

Together, they are providing a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescriptions drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse and medications, said VBT Public Safety Director Greg Laurain.

This is the opportunity to help prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs, Director Laurain said.

Bring pills for disposal to the Van Buren Township Police station lobby at 46425 Tyler Rd. for disposal the service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

They cannot accept liquids, glass bottles, needles or sharps, only pills or patches.

Sumpter Township Police Station also has a prescription drug drop-off container and most pharmacies also accept drugs for disposal.

COVID-19 death total in 48111 area climbs to 33

The COVID-19 death rate in the 48111 zip code had been 32 since Sept. 10 and then on Saturday rose to 33, with one more death in Van Buren Township.

The positive tests for COVID-19 in 48111 were 715 on Monday, Oct. 19, up from 673 the previous Monday, Oct. 12.

On Monday, Oct. 19, the separate numbers released by the Wayne County Health Department for the tri-community were: Van Buren Township, 443 positive cases, 18 deaths; City of Belleville, 182 positive cases, 14 deaths; and Sumpter Township 90 positive cases, 1 death.

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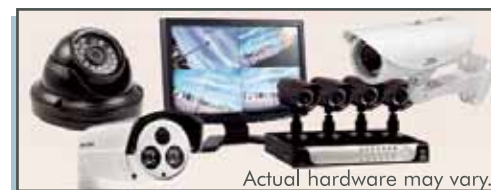
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Christopher Slat - District 17

Ranjeev Puri - District 21

Darrin Camilleri - District 23

Absentee Ballots are now available and must be returned by 8 p.m. Nov. 3rd We encourage you to vote early and drop your ballot off in your Election Drop Box and track your ballot at Michigan.gov/vote.

Paid for by Southwestern Wayne Democratic Club, P O Box 1182, Belleville, MI



Wayne County

A. Haidous - Commissioner - District 11

Cathy M. Garrett - Clerk

Kym L. Worthy - Prosecuting Attorney

Benny N. Napoleon - Sheriff

Eric R. Sabree - Treasurer

Bernard J. Youngblood - Register of Deeds

Sumpter Township

Sheena Barnes - Trustee

Peggy A. Morgan - Trustee

Van Buren Charter Township

Kevin McNamara - Supervisor

Leon Wright - Clerk

Sharry A. Budd - Treasurer

Donald Boynton Jr.

Sherry A. Frazier

Kevin Martin

Reggie Miller

****Michigan Supreme Court Justice****

****Bridget Mary McCormack****

****Elizabeth M. Welch****

****We have an opportunity to flip the MI Supreme Court. ****

3rd Circuit Court - Non-Incumbent

Chandra W. Baker

Nicholas J. Hathaway

34th District Court

Lisa Martin

****Don't forget to vote the non-partisan part of your ballot!!!**



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WE NEED LISTINGS

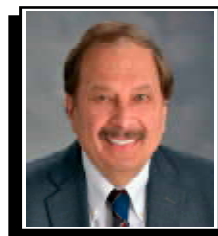
Real Trends 2020

#6 Agent Owned

Brokerage in the

State of Michigan

Transaction Sides



DO NOT BE OVERCHARGED - NO DOCUMENT STORAGE FEES - NO COMPLIANCE FEES - NO JUNK FEES

5+ ACRES - EXTRACLEAN



48370 HULL, VAN BUREN

UPDATED 3 Bedroom 2 Bath Ranch with Living Room, Family Room, Skylights and Premium \$35,000 Kitchen. A large deck overlooks large fenced rear yard. 5+ acres with preferred privacy. 3 car garage, whole house generator. \$250,000

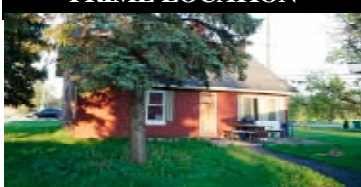
6 ACRES - 2,277 SF + BARN



9392 JUDD, WILLIS

COUNTRY RETREAT Featuring 4 Bedrooms, 2 1/2 Baths, 2,277 SF Open Kitchen - Dining Room, Living Room, Family Room with Fireplace. On 6.22 Acres with Trex Deck, 3 Car Garage PLUS Barn \$295,000

PRIME LOCATION



41405 TYLER, VAN BUREN

PRIME LOCATION. Corner of Haggerty and Tyler. Opportunity Awaits - 3 Bedroom, 1 Bath Home. Large Lot with Larger 2 1/2 Car Detached Garage. New Carpet, New Bath, New Paint \$155,000

GARAGE + POLE BARN



15700 HAGGERTY, VAN BUREN

A NICE PRICE FOR A PRICELESS BEAUTY! 3 Bedrooms, 1 Bath, Central Air, Whole House Generator, 2 1/2 Car Garage & Large Pole Barn. 3.06 Acres. \$225,000

TWO LOTS INCLUDED



22481 BOHN, SUMPTER TOWNSHIP

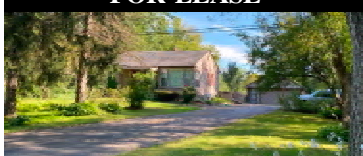
RESTFUL AND RELAXING! 3 Bedrooms, 1 Bath, 1st floor finished lot. Newer gutters and paved driveway yet home does need some updating. \$139,500

FOR SALE OR LEASE



500E HURON RIVER DR, BELLEVILLE
HIGHEST QUALITY BRICK COMMERCIAL BUILDING IN THE CITY OF BELLEVILLE. Former Florist, Bakery and Coffee House. FINE DESIGN! For Sale at \$750,000 or Lease at \$4,500. Month Double Net.

FOR LEASE



44291 BEMIS, SUMPTER TOWNSHIP
FOR LEASE. 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath, 894 Sq Ft Home with Updates, Full Basement, Whole House Generator. Great Neighborhood. 2 1/2 Car Garage. 5 Acres on Paved Street \$1,500 mo. We have Lease Requirements

JUST LISTED



324 CHERRY, WYANDOTTE

A Preferred Location 2 Bedroom 1 Bath Home near Everything. Full Basement with Newer 90+ Furnace and Newer High Efficient Water Heater. Purchaser responsible for certificate of occupancy and home sold in as is condition. \$115,000

9 AC - MULTIPLE ZONING



354 W COLUMBIA, BELLEVILLE

TWO LOTS - MULTIPLE FAMILY ZONING One of the Largest Parcels to be developed in The City of Belleville. .9 Acres with 197 Foot Frontage There is a Home and Barn on Property Being Sold for Value in Land \$100,000

MOST AFFORDABLE



51046 OLD MICHIGAN, VAN BUREN

A MOST AFFORDABLE 3 Bedroom 1 1/2 Bath Ranch. Newer Windows, Doors, Newer Furnace and Central Air. Over 1/2 Acre. More than 1,300 Square Feet. No VA or FHA Offers and Exclude all Appliances and Dishwasher. \$130,000

THREE PARCELS A MOST BEAUTIFUL PROPERTY 20+ ACRES WEAR RDS \$175,000

TORREY 2.48 AC PERC & SURV	\$39,000
VACANT RAWSONVILLE 2.6 AC	\$95,000
40700 BEMIS 1 AC VAN BUREN	\$35,000
19 AC BREST ROAD TAYLOR	\$550,000

COMMERCIAL CORNER OF ECORSE & WAYNE ROMULUS 4.27 ACRES \$350,000

22120 SHERWOOD 37.55 AC	\$179,000
SAVAGE 1 ACRE SUMPTER TWP	\$45,000
25817 SUMPTER 80X529 .97 AC	\$20,000
24053 BOHN 3.3 ACRES SUMPTER	\$67,000

FOUR 12+ ACRE PARCELS AT \$120,000 EACH CORNER WEAR AND HAGGERTY

VACANT LOUISA "DREAM LOT"	\$70,000
GRANT ROMULUS 1.8 ACRES LT IN	\$65,000
HAGGERTY 1.5 AC VAN BUREN	\$70,000
16265 DIX SOUTHGATE 1.6 AC	\$155,000

7 PARCELS ON THE CORNER OF BEMIS AND MARTINSVILLE. PRICED \$50,000 TO \$60,000 EACH. BUILD YOUR DREAM

WILLIS SUMPTER 1.14 ACRES	\$45,000
JUDD 10 ACRES SUMPTER TWP	\$80,000
10 AC BUNTON YPSILANTI TWP	\$155,000

HURON TWP VAC CLARK 1.12 AC \$50,000

HURON TWP VAC CLARK .74 ACRES	\$40,000
HURON TWP VAC OTTER 2.94 ACRES	\$60,000
HURON TWP VAC ASH .87 ACRES	\$55,000
HURON TWP VAC ASH .87 ACRES	\$55,000
41530 SAVAGE 30 AC VAN BUREN	\$349,999

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